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Date of Deposit: June 16, 2006

Our Case No. 5404/154

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	)	
Minoru Kuroda et al.	)	
	)	Examiner: Not Assigned
International Serial No.	)	
PCT/JP2004/019726	)	Group Art Unit: Not Assigned
	)	
U.S. Serial No.: Applied for	)	
	)	
International Filing Date: December 24,	)	
2004	)	
	)	
U.S. Filing Date: Herewith	)	
	)	
Title: STEP PILE FABRIC AND	)	
PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE	)	
SAME	)	

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows: